



University Outreach
NDSU Extension Service Mini-Grant Program
College of Human Development and Education
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
2007-2008

Situation

North Dakota State University is a Land-Grant University and is mandated by law to deliver Extension programming as described by USDA-CSREES (National Extension Service Unit). Extension programming is supported by the following sources:

- Federal and state appropriated funds
- County Government funds
- Variety of grants and contracts

At least one land-grant institution is located in each state and their mission is to take the resources and knowledge of the university to the people of the state. This is different from the campus-based and distance-education courses offered toward a degree. The Extension target audience is diverse, and the method to plan for programming is based on input from the local/county level, as well as specialists at the state level who monitor data/trends and federal partners who provide direct input.

Extension Staff

Extension agents are located in almost every county in the state and area extension specialists are located at various Research Extension Centers.

Extension specialists are also located in two of the four departments in the College of Human Development and Education and in seven of the nine departments of the College of Agriculture, Food Systems and Natural Resources.

In addition, extension specialists are located in the Center for 4-H Youth Development, which is a part of the College of Human Development and Education.

Current Need

The differing missions of the NDSU Extension Service and academic-based faculty can be confusing and the lack of understanding may be hindering potential collaboration. A mini-grant pilot project is proposed to encourage more collaborative work that will directly achieve the mission of the land-grant institution and provide interested faculty in the College of Human Development and Education and the College of Art, Humanities and Social Science with new opportunities to become involved with extension programming.

Proposal

Any faculty member with an interest in extending educational programming to the people of North Dakota, or in supporting the identified program needs of Extension (see State Plans of Work – <http://www.ext.nodak.edu/progplan/fy08statePOW.htm>), may apply for a mini-grant. Educational programming efforts that include collaborative activity with extension agents or specialists will receive priority. These efforts will be recognized as scholarly work toward the tenure process by the College of Human Development and Education and the College of Art, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Each project should be discussed with an Extension contact as you are developing your proposal. **Please begin by sharing your ideas with Deb Gebeke, Extension Assistant Director, 701-231-7179 or debra.gebeke@ndsu.edu.** Dr. Gebeke will direct you to an appropriate Extension colleague if you have not already identified one.

Why Mini-Grants?

- Provide incentive to any interested faculty member to assist in achieving the mission of the land-grant university.
- Build more collaborative relationships between Extension-based and academic-based faculty members.
- Increase programming for citizens of North Dakota.

How will this be funded?

Extension will provide funds for the incentives outlined in this proposal. A minimum of \$5,000 will be available for extension/outreach projects in each college. A set amount per proposal is not indicated; instead, faculty can write their request for the amount needed and the budget will be reviewed during the selection process. This program will operate on an 'open policy basis' which will allow additional funding for projects submitted that are unique and beyond the capacity of this funding option.

How will projects be selected?

Extension will appoint a team of three reviewers to select projects for 2007-08. The team will consist of the Extension program leader, the dean (or his/her appointee) and the department chair for the appropriate subject matter area. This will assure that each college/department is aware of the projects being funded and that full support is granted for tenure track purposes.

Review Criteria

1. Academic and Extension partnership
2. Project fulfills the mission of a land-grant university – take university research to the people of North Dakota.
3. Project will have direct application to current Plan of Work (POW) for the NDSU Extension Service. Key issues for North Dakotans are identified by Extension in its annual POW. (POW is the annual plan developed in conjunction with county staff, state specialists and the Extension Leadership Team. Extension partners will assist academic partners with understanding how this project might help meet the desired outcomes of the POW.)

Timeline

The mini-grant process will be shared with administrators in August and distributed to faculty by department chairs. Information will also be available on each college websites. Proposals will be due October 19, 2007. Selections will be made by November 19, 2007. All projects must be completed by the deadline negotiated upon selection or no later than June 30, 2008.

Process

An Extension Mini-Grant Application form and proposed budget form is available on-line on each college website. An electronic file will also be available upon request.

Questions

If you have additional questions, please call Deb Gebeke at 701-231-7171 or 701-231-9688 or e-mail at debra.gebeke@ndsu.edu.